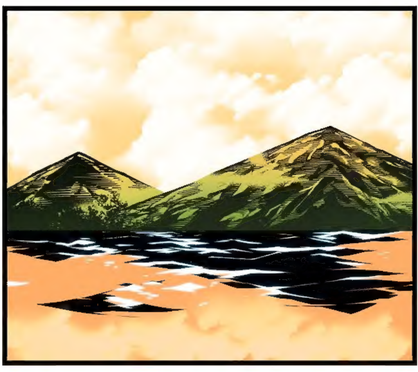
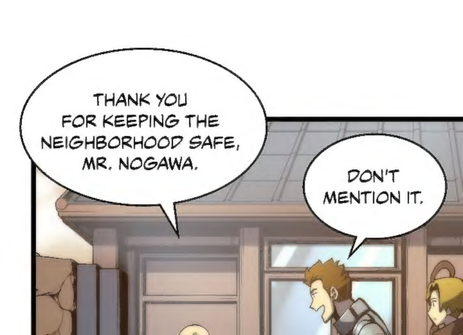


NOTHING BEATS THE PEACE AND QUIET.


THANK YOU FOR KEEPING THE NEIGHBORHOOD SAFE, MR. NOGAWA.
DON'T MENTION IT.

AND WHO IS THAT NEXT TO YOU? A NEWCOMER?
YES, PLEASE WELCOME THEM.

THIS MIGHT NOT SEEM IMPORTANT, BUT BE SURE TO MAKE YOUR DAILY ROUNDS AND BECOME ACQUAINTED WITH THE TOWNSPEOPLE.
IF A GATE OPENS UP ON A REMOTE ISLAND LIKE OURS, WE'RE DOOMED.
IF WE TAKE TOO LONG TO FIND THE GATE, A DUNGEON BREAK MIGHT OCCUR, WHICH WILL WIPE OUT OUR ENTIRE TOWN.

SO WE HAVE TO LOCATE THE GATE AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE USING THE MANA METER...
AND CONTACT THE HUNTERS OUTSIDE THE ISLAND FOR HELP.
IT WILL TAKE THREE DAYS FOR REINFORCEMENTS TO ARRIVE.
THAT MEANS WE MUST LOCATE THE GATE WITHIN THREE DAYS OF ITS APPEARANCE.

I'M A D-RANK AND YOU'RE AN E-RANK, BUT WE'RE THE ONLY HUNTERS IN THIS TOWN. WE HAVE TO BE RESPONSIBLE AND...
??

MR. NOGAWA, LOOK OVER THERE...

WHAT IS THAT? A PERSON?

WHO GOES THERE?

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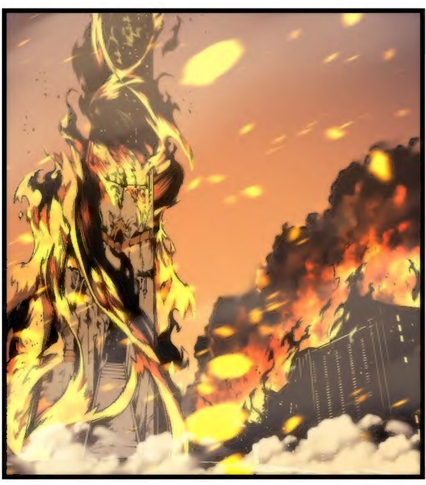
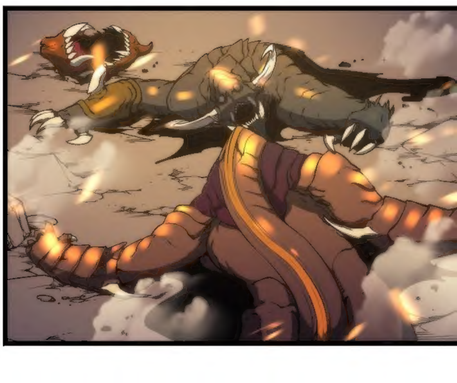
Art · DUBU(REDICE STUDIO)
Original Novel · Chugong
Story · h-goon

81

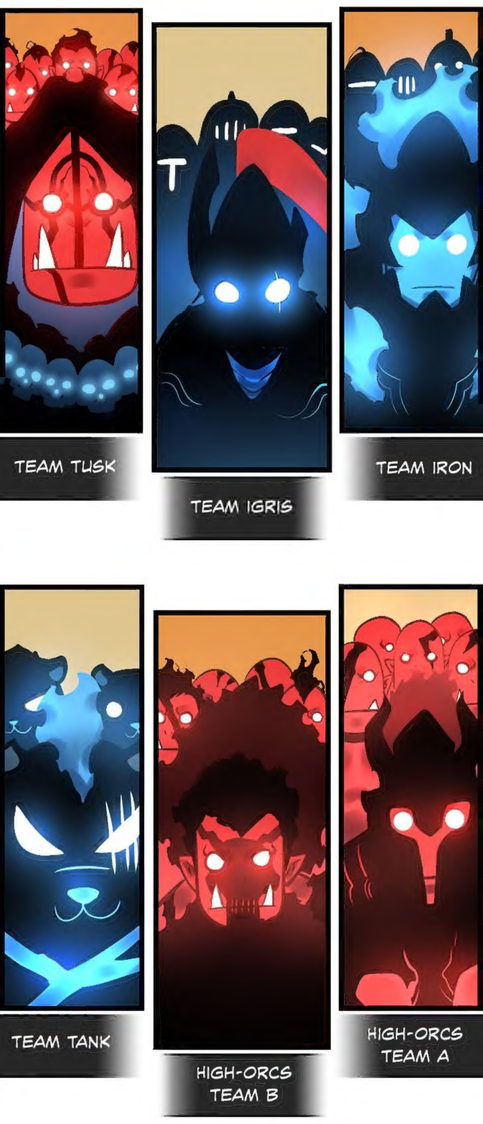




EVER SINCE MY INTELLIGENCE STAT INCREASED, THE GAP BETWEEN THE NUMBER OF SHADOWS I CAN EXTRACT AND THE NUMBER OF SHADOWS I CAN PRESERVE HAS GROWN.
[NUMBER OF EXTRACTABLE SHADOWS: 127/820]
[NUMBER OF PRESERVED SHADOWS: 127/155]
IF I COULD EXTRACT THESE DEMONS, I'D HAVE A HUGE ARMY BY NOW. WHAT A SHAME.

IT'LL BE INEFFICIENT FOR ALL OF MY SOLDIERS TO FOLLOW ME AROUND.
FROM THIS POINT ON, I HAVE TO OPERATE WITH EFFICIENCY.
WE'RE GOING TO SPLIT UP INTO...

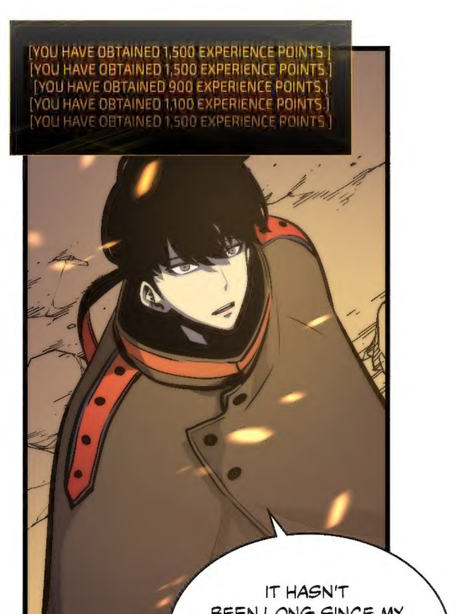
...SIX GROUPS IN TOTAL.


TEAM TUSK
TEAM IGRIS
TEAM IRON
TEAM TANK
HIGH-ORCS TEAM B
HIGH-ORCS TEAM A

YOU HAVE TWO TASKS.
ONE, SPLIT UP AND DEFEAT EVERY ENEMY YOU COME ACROSS.
TWO, REPORT TO ME WHEN YOU FIND THE ENTRY PERMIT FOR THE NEXT FLOOR.

DISPERSE.
DASH
DASH

I'LL HAVE TO GIVE UP ON ALL THE ITEMS I FIND HERE BESIDES THE ENTRY PERMITS.
MY MAIN PRIORITY IS TO GET TO THE TOP FLOOR AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.


[YOU HAVE OBTAINED 1,500 EXPERIENCE POINTS.]
[YOU HAVE OBTAINED 1,500 EXPERIENCE POINTS.]
[YOU HAVE OBTAINED 900 EXPERIENCE POINTS.]
[YOU HAVE OBTAINED 1,100 EXPERIENCE POINTS.]
[YOU HAVE OBTAINED 1,500 EXPERIENCE POINTS.]
IT HASN'T

BEEN LONG SINCE MY SOLDIERS DISPERSED, YET I'M ALREADY GAINING SO MANY EXPERIENCE POINTS.

THIS IS CONVENIENT. I DON'T NEED TO WASTE MY TIME RUNNING AROUND ANYMORE.

AS LONG AS MY SHADOW SOLDIERS DON'T GET DESTROYED, I WON'T HAVE TO USE ANY OF MY MANA EITHER.

BUT MY MAGES AND INFANTRYMEN WILL STRUGGLE A BIT, SINCE ALL THE DEMONS ON THIS FLOOR ARE HIGH-RANKING.

I'LL HAVE TO USE POTIONS TO CONSTANTLY RECHARGE MY MANA.

A FEW DAYS LATER

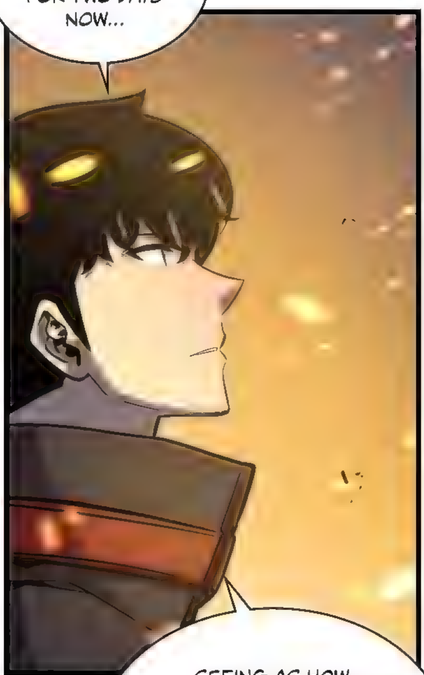
[SHADOW BEAST LV.24]
RANK: ELITE
WHAT'S THIS? TANK HAS LEVELED UP 10 LEVELS SINCE I LAST CHECKED.

I'VE LEVELED UP AS WELL, BUT THE DIFFERENCE IS MUCH MORE DRASTIC FOR MY SHADOW SOLDIERS.
[SHADOW INFANTRYMAN LV.16]
RANK: STANDARD
I GUESS HUNTING IN GROUPS TURNED OUT TO BE SUPER EFFICIENT.
[SHADOW MAGE LV.19]
RANK: ELITE

I'VE GOT 20 MORE FLOORS TO GO.

I MADE IT TO THE 80TH FLOOR MUCH FASTER THAN I EXPECTED.

WE'VE BEEN ON THE 80TH FLOOR FOR TWO DAYS NOW...



SEEING AS HOW THE ENTRY PERMIT HASN'T SHOWN UP YET... PERHAPS THERE ARE STRONGER DEMONS LURKING AROUND SOMEWHERE.

FLINCH
[MP : 4,
/5,672]

MY MANA IS BEING DRAINED AT AN INSANE RATE.
SOMEONE IS RELENTLESSLY DESTROYING MY SHADOWS RIGHT NOW!

IS THE BATTLE HAPPENING OVER THERE?

MY SOLDIERS CAN'T REGENERATE QUICKLY ENOUGH.
WHOEVER IT IS, THEY'RE MUCH STRONGER.

THAT MUST BE IRON'S GROUP.
I CAN'T BELIEVE THERE'S A DEMON MORE POWERFUL THAN IRON HERE.

[MP : 8,831/5,672]

THIS LEAVES ME NO CHOICE. I HAVE TO CALL BACK MY SHADOWS.
FSHHH

THE NEXT DAY,
I HAD TO WITHDRAW MY TROOPS BECAUSE OF THE CONTINUED ATTACKS.

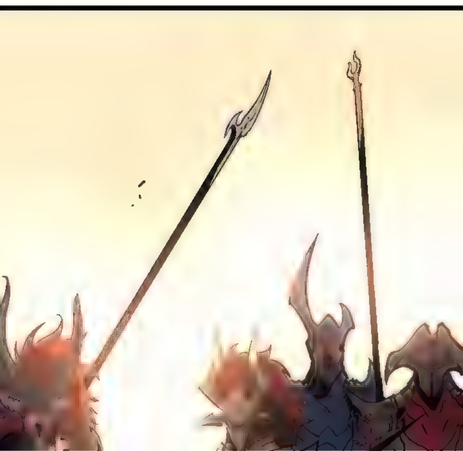
BUT SOMETHING'S NOT QUITE RIGHT.

TUSK'S TEAM WAS RIGHT NEXT TO IGRIS'S TEAM, YET THEY SKIPPED OVER THEM AND WENT STRAIGHT FOR THE HIGH ORCS IN TEAM "A."
TUSK
ME
HIGH ORCS B

WAS IT BECAUSE THE DEMONS WEREN'T STRONG ENOUGH TO DEFEAT TUSK?
THEY'RE PICKING AND CHOOSING OPPONENTS THEY CAN WIN AGAINST, WHICH MEANS...
HMM...
...THEY'RE SMART ENOUGH TO IDENTIFY THEIR OPPONENTS' WEAKNESSES.
THEY ATTACKED THE HIGH ORCS OF TEAM "B" ON PURPOSE BECAUSE...
...THEIR NEXT TARGET IS...

THIS HAS TO BE THEIR NEXT DESTINATION.

...THERE THEY COME.



A DEMON NOBLE AND THREE DEMON KNIGHTS.

ROOOOAR!

LEAP
SLASH

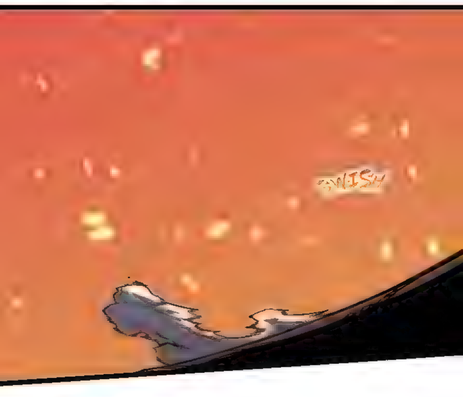
SO THIS IS WHY MY SOLDIERS WEREN'T ABLE TO REGENERATE FAST ENOUGH.
BOOM
BOOM
SLLE

LOOKS LIKE MY SHADOW BEASTS DON'T STAND A CHANCE.
FSHH

SWOOSH

WHAM
[YOU HAVE DEFEATED A DEMON KNIGHT.]
[YOU HAVE OBTAINED 3,000 EXPERIENCE POINTS.]

SLASH



SHUDDER

[YOU HAVE DEFEATED A DEMON KNIGHT.]
[YOU HAVE OBTAINED 3,000 EXPERIENCE POINTS.]
SLASH
SLASH
[YOU HAVE DEFEATED A DEMON KNIGHT.]
[YOU HAVE OBTAINED 3,000 EXPERIENCE POINTS.]
CLACK

To Be Continued...

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D&C WEBTOON

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